

**Location: Rockport Town Hall, Meeting Room A**

**Present:** Larry Neal/Chairman (arrives 7:15 pm and leaves 8:30 pm), Rob Claypool/Vice Chairman (runs meeting), Alan MacMillan (arrives 7:25 pm), MaryAnn Lash, David McKinnon, Mel Michaels/Associate Member (arrives 7:15 pm), GERALYN Falco/Conservation Agent. The Rockport Conservation Commission (RCC) is a five member volunteer board. Four to five voting members are present.

**Absent:** Andrea Nichols/Secretary

**Citizen Inquiries:**

*William Merry, 13 Laurel Acres* – asks what town can do to unclog *Phragmites* in saltmarsh downstream of his backed-up stream. RCC went to site and saw stream full of water with minimal flow; noted flow within saltmarsh; noted no blockage at Seaview Street culvert; asks Mr. Merry to keep monitoring situation.

**Stewardship**

Sandpiper NOI-DRAFT – RCC reviews and amends NOI; to be sent to DEP tomorrow and discussed in public hearing at next meeting. RCC discusses DPW estimate of costs to do work; adds cost for plaques and plants, and decides on total cost = \$15,000. Chairman Neal moves to request \$15,000 in CPA Application; Mr. MacMillan seconds. Vote 5:0.

*David McKinnon, Commissioner* – tells RCC that he has joined Cape Ann Vernal Pond Team; is their new treasurer; wants full disclosure and will send note to Office.

**Minutes.**

**12/16/15:** Mr. McKinnon moves to approve minute as amended; Mrs. Lash seconds. Vote 4:0.

**01/06/16:** Mr. McKinnon moves to approve minute as amended; Mr. MacMillan seconds. Vote 4:0.

**New Hearings**

**NOI 62-0719, Katherine Reid, 15R Main Street (Map 35/Lot 29).** *Demolish garage and construct addition within 100' of coastal bank.* Applicant is present. Jack Campbell (Campbell Associates Architects) is present for applicant and makes presentation; says work on building is within FEMA flood zone, but state issued variance to allow it; proposes addition to building within 25' No-Disturb & 50' No-Build zones; mitigation to be two (2) trench drains and pervious pavers on existing asphalt driveway; roof runoff (including neighbors') drains to ocean under site; drain pipes to be replaced. RCC concerns are: pipe at coastal bank (CB) impacting stability of CB; existing condition of CB; requests site visit. Site visit is scheduled for January 23, 2016. With permission from the Applicant, hearing is continued until February 3, 2016 pending site visit. Hearing is continued. **The digital voice recording of this hearing will be retained until all appeal periods have passed and all appeals resolved.**

**Continued Hearings**

**NOI 62-0720, Chris Trupiano, 14 McKays Drive (Map 11/Lot 52M).** *Construct addition within 100' of intermittent stream.* Mr. Trupiano is present. RCC discusses site visit; there are no issues with project. Chairman Neal moves to close hearing; Mr. MacMillan seconds. Vote 5:0.

**Hearing is closed. The digital voice recording of this hearing will be retained until all appeal periods have passed and all appeals resolved.**

**Review Orders of Conditions:**

**NOI 62-0718, Marion DeLuca, 122 Long Beach (Map 25/Lot 32).** Mr. MacMillan moves to issue OC as written; Mr. McKinnon seconds. Vote 4:0.

**Other Business**

- **Rockport Green Communities Task Force – Solar Array** – Tom Mikus and David Perry are present for Task Force; Mr. Mikus makes presentation, explaining criteria and benefits of Rockport becoming a “Green Community”. Criteria #1 & #2 are “specify zoning for alternative energy” and “streamline permitting for alternative energy development”, respectively. Task Force has chosen solar array as alternative energy for these criteria; suggests that Transfer Station parking lot may be appropriate location; notes there are wetlands nearby (displays plan of area with wetlands shown); alerts RCC of possible permitting needed there; will bring Green Community issue to spring Town Meeting 2016. IMPORTANT NOTE: “streamlining” means obtaining permit within one year and does not bypass any local, state or federal laws. RCC supports idea of Green Community status for town; voices concern with possibility of puncturing landfill cap if array is sited on it. Task Force educates RCC on issues before Town Meeting 2016. RCC to write letter of support.
- **DPW-Frog Pond Dredging Plan** – Joe Parisi and Don Greel (DPW) are present. Mr. Parisi explains dredging plan as part of Order of Conditions issued to DPW for Dam Repair project (DEP 62-0587); Conditions #31 & 32 require submitting plan for dredging Frog Pond; tells of opportunity to do work in winter; explains project schedule and how work will go. RCC concerns are: plan shows no depths of material to be removed (Mr. Greel says likely 2.5 feet of material to be removed; approximate amount removed last time); and how wildlife will be preserved (specifically turtles). RCC to draft letter of approval with conditions on work for next meeting; allows DPW to set up area (reminds DPW to install DEP sign).
- **Conservation Restriction (CR), co-held with ECGA** – Chris LaPointe and Paul Bryant are present. Mr. LaPointe corrects RCC’s description of CR; says RCC will not “co-hold” it but will be back-up holder. For that reason, RCC does not need to sign CR; only Board of Selectmen (BOS) signatures are required. Mr. LaPointe briefly explains CR, requests that RCC endorse CR, and that it sign a “Municipal Certificate” required by state. Mr. LaPointe will go to BOS meeting on January 26, 2016 to get its approval and signatures. RCC is concerned about how far building envelope is from wetlands. Mr. MacMillan moves to sign “Municipal Certificate”; Mr. McKinnon seconds. Vote 4:0. Agent Falco to represent RCC at BOS meeting.
- **CPC Application 2016** – this discussion takes place in Stewardship: Sandpiper Property NOI
- **New Business/Announcements** -
  - MACC Conference - Agent Falco asks RCC to consider going to Conference on March 5, 2016 and to get registration information in ASAP.
  - Complaint – postponed until next meeting.

**Vice Chairman Claypool moves to adjourn meeting; Mr. MacMillan \_seconds. Vote 4:0.**

**9:30 PM**

*RCC ► Meeting adjourns 9:30 PM ◄ RCC*